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Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

World Summaries
CROPS AND LIVESTOCK

FEBRUARY 26, 1959

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Foreign Agricultural Service

EXPANSION OF WORLD CULTIVATED AREA MODERATE SINCE 1935-39

Increases in cultivated acreage have played a relatively small part in the marked expansion in world agricultural production since 1935-39.[1]

From 1935-39 to 1956 the total world acreage in the major field crops increased only 11.6 percent, or about 0.5 percent a year. The largest acreage planted to cultivated crops was in 1956, totaling 1,607 million acres compared with the average of 1,440 million acres for 1935-39 and 1,500 million acres in the period 1950-54. Since the crops in Table 1 include all of those requiring large acreages except the millets, grain sorghums and associated crops, these changes in acreages are fairly indicative of the changes in the total world acreage devoted to crop production.

Most of the increases in world cultivated acreages occurred between 1953 and 1956 during the marked expansion of cultivated acreage in the U.S.S.R. During this period the U.S.S.R's total acreage under cultivation increased from 388 million to 481 million acres, or 93 million acres, accounting for nearly 90 percent of the increase of 106 million acres for all selected crops from 1950-54 to 1956. Since 1956 the Soviet Union's acreage in crops has remained at about the 1956 level, as has the world's acreage in all field crops.

In other world areas, changes in cultivated acreage have been small. Crop acreage in Asia, in 1956 where the greatest efforts are being made to expand agricultural production, was about 75 million acres or 13 percent above the 1950-54 average but has increased no further in the last 2 years. In other areas, a decline of about 20 million acres in North America since 1950-54, primarily because of the U. S. Soil Bank program, has been offset by increases of about 6 million acres in South America, 3 million in Europe, 3 million in Oceania and 7 million in Africa.

More acreage was planted to wheat than to any other crop and the increase in total wheat acreage has amounted to nearly 19 percent due to the marked expansion in the U.S.S.R. and Communist China, and to the shift from rye to wheat. In 1958 rye acreage was only 77 percent as large as in 1935-39 due to this shift.

The acreage in rice, second only to that of wheat, has expanded even more rapidly than wheat. In 1958 the total acreage of 277 million acres was a new record and was 25 percent above the acreage in rice in 1935-39. Soybeans and peanuts and barley are the only other major crops which have shown a marked expansion in acreage since 1935-39. The expansion in soybeans and peanuts acreage has been largely due to greater demand for vegetable oils, whereas the expansion in barley was largely a shift from oats in competing areas.

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[1] See Many Crops Set New World Record for 1958-59, December 1958 Monthly Supplement of Foreign Crops and Markets.

Table 1-Estimated world acreage for selected field crops, averages 1935-39, 1950-54, annual 1955-58

Crop	Average		1955	1956	1957	1958
	1935-39	1950-54				
	Million acres					
Wheat	425.1	447.3	475.9	488.6	500.9	504.4
Rye	101.3	90.2	82.9	80.5	79.2	78.7
Rice, rough	222.1	256.1	264.3	270.9	269.1	277.4
Corn	222.6	222.4	239.5	243.0	235.0	236.6
Oats	144.0	128.7	126.4	121.8	117.8	113.7
Barley	117.4	121.1	134.2	140.7	135.3	136.0
Sugar, beet	8.3	11.1	12.2	13.3	13.7	14.9
Beans, dry edible	10.3	13.4	12.5	15.2	15.2	14.8
Potatoes	29.2	26.5	26.4	26.4	26.3	25.8
Soybeans	29.0	45.2	52.0	55.7	54.1	51.7
Peanuts	22.3	30.1	33.9	35.6	36.9	38.8
Flaxseed	19.7	17.4	18.3	23.1	22.5	20.1
Cotton	81.1	81.9	84.5	82.4	79.5	79.4
Tobacco	7.6	8.7	9.2	9.4	9.5	9.4
Total of above crops	1,440.0	1,500.1	1,572.2	1,606.6	1,595.0	1,601.7

Table 2- Estimated world yield per acre of selected field crops, averages 1935-39, 1950-54, annual 1955-58

Crop	Unit	Average		1955	1956	1957	1958
		1935-39	1950-54				
Wheat	Bu.	14.5	15.6	15.6	15.9	15.3	17.3
Rye	Bu.	17.1	16.1	17.9	17.4	17.9	18.9
Rice, rough	Cwt.	16.7	15.4	16.2	16.2	15.8	17.0
Corn	Bu.	21.4	25.4	23.9	27.0	27.9	30.0
Oats	Bu.	30.3	32.3	31.6	35.0	33.9	36.6
Barley	Bu.	20.2	22.2	22.0	23.9	23.3	23.7
Sugar, beet	S.T.	9.9	10.1	10.1	9.6	10.7	10.3
Beans,dry edible	Lb.	610	586	629	573	587	621
Potatoes	Cwt.	113	127	119	140	136	130
Soybeans	Bu.	16.0	15.1	14.8	15.2	16.2	19.0
Peanuts	Lb.	908	800	778	788	810	820
Flaxseed	Bu.	7.1	7.1	6.8	7.3	5.5	7.0
Cotton	Lb.	195	227	244	250	253	266
Tobacco	Lb.	877	868	924	964	906	918

Acreage in most of the other major crops have remained relatively steady or declined since prewar. Corn acreage has expanded moderately, but the total acreage in major feed grains in 1958 was practically unchanged from 1935-39. The world's cotton acreage has also continued relatively constant, fluctuating around 80 million acres a year. World flaxseed acreage, around 20 million acres annually, likewise has shown no significant trend.

Several crops have shown definite upward trends in yield since 1939. The most pronounced and persistant increases have been in the yield of corn and cotton which in 1958 were 40 and 36 percent respectively above the 1935-39 average. Yields of oats, barley, potatoes and tobacco have also shown significant though less pronounced upward trends since prewar. Yields of wheat have increased moderately, despite the expansion into new areas of uncertain production. Rice yields have also shown some upward trend from the low levels reached in 1950-54 but 1958 is the only recent year exceeding the 1935-39 average.

The data in Table 2 also reveals the importance of yields in the unusually high level of world agricultural production in 1958-59. Not only were yields of wheat, rye, rice, corn, oats, soybeans and cotton at new high levels but in nearly every instance the increase was considerably more than might be expected as a result of the upward trends in yields.

LITTLE CHANGE IN NORTHERN HEMISPHERE STONE FRUIT PRODUCTION

Weather conditions generally favored stone fruit production in the Northern Hemisphere during 1958 although spring frosts in some areas, particularly in Yugoslavia, reduced crops significantly.

Total hemisphere production of stone fruits in 1958 was about the same as in 1957 but continued to be substantially below the 1951-55 average, largely because of plum and prune production being about 25 percent below average.

Apricots: With the exception of Spain, Switzerland and Syria, all reporting countries of the Northern Hemisphere had an apricot crop substantially below the 1957 bumper levels and slightly below average. The total Hemisphere crop is down 32 percent from 1957 with Europe and North America reporting decreases of 43 and 41 percent, respectively.

Cherries: Cherry crops in 1958 were substantially above the short 1957 production and about average. North American crops were about 20 percent below 1957 levels because of a 50,000-ton drop in the United States.

(Continued on Page 20)

APRICOTS, FRESH: Production in specified countries, average 1951-55, annual 1956-58

Continent and country	Average 1951-55	1956	1957	1958 1/
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
North America				
Canada	3,740	2,100	7,025	6,275
Mexico	5,595	5,794	5,346	5,842
United States	209,140	195,900	190,400	108,200
Total	218,475	203,794	202,771	120,317
Europe				
Austria	3,821	439	1,296	612
France	43,878	15,068	119,533	29,784
Germany, West	2,130	240	1,154	1,078
Greece	10,277	11,383	18,822	8,298
Italy	36,589	38,768	38,250	34,612
Spain	68,247	86,641	66,138	77,161
Switzerland	4,012	1,653	2,205	6,614
Yugoslavia	19,209	8,818	35,825	4,299
Total	188,163	163,010	283,223	162,458
Asia				
Iran	74,956	75,000	80,000	80,000
Syria	23,036	12,125	22,046	38,580
Turkey 2/	22,765	29,438	22,046	13,228
Total	120,757	116,563	124,092	131,808
South America				
Argentina	11,164	3,638	16,755	
Chile	3,105	3,748	4,079	
Total	14,269	7,386	20,834	
Africa				
Un. of So. Africa 3/	682	411	806	
Oceania				
Australia	33,251	34,008	30,288	
New Zealand	4,441	3,780	3,360	
Total	37,692	37,788	33,648	
Total Specified Countries	580,038	528,952	665,374	

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Does not include wild apricots.

3/ Deciduous Fruit Board exports and local sales used

CHERRIES, FRESH: Production in specified countries, average 1951-55, annual 1956-58

Continent and country	Average 1951-55	1956	1957	1958 1/
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
North America				
Canada	13,180	9,700	15,125	17,825
United States	227,350	168,000	240,100	187,400
Total	240,530	177,700	255,225	205,225
Europe				
Austria	28,259	24,802	20,000	29,600
Belgium Luxembourg	32,703	33,620	22,156 2/	33,069
Denmark	2,735	11,023	8,708	9,149
France	91,134	87,710	75,541	59,524
Germany, West	191,665	191,512	111,418	183,861
Greece	9,341	12,015	12,880	9,427
Italy	139,252	152,117	124,339	185,374
Netherlands	19,330	9,921	2,205	12,125
Norway	3,910	5,420	3,968	4,630
Spain	38,138	42,627	44,092	41,900
Sweden	9,700	13,448	7,606	12,125
Switzerland	62,831	55,115	27,558	66,138
United Kingdom	25,491	33,600	29,120	31,360
Yugoslavia	77,252	55,335	89,176	80,400
Total	731,741	728,265	578,767	758,682
Asia				
Japan	3,653	5,908	6,382	6,504
Syria	1,920	661	661	661
Turkey	43,977	62,435	52,910	63,933
Total	49,550	69,004	59,953	71,098
South America				
Argentina	2,625	1,675	3,858	
Chile	1,465	2,866	3,086	
Total	4,090	4,541	6,944	
Oceania				
Australia	5,340	5,760	5,600	
New Zealand	348	294	357	
Total	5,688	6,054	5,957	
Total Specified Countries	1,031,599	985,564	906,846	

PEACHES, FRESH: Production in specified countries, average 1951-55, annual 1956-58

Continent and country	Average 1951-55	1956	1957	1958 1/
	1,000 Bushels	1,000 Bushels	1,000 Bushels	1,000 Bushels
North America				
Canada	2,582	1,667	2,801	3,120
Mexico	2,341	2,909	2,381	2,756
United States	60,798	70,079	61,518	70,120
Total	65,721	74,655	66,700	75,996
Europe				
Austria	217	59	110	184
France	6,675	7,898	12,483	8,791
Germany, West	1,977	329	460	1,200
Greece	604	1,170	1,653	1,929
Italy	18,509	16,869	24,827	24,682
Netherlands	78	51	41	44
Spain	4,743	3,587	4,593	4,134
Yugoslavia	769	271	1,047	459
Total	33,572	30,234	45,214	41,423
Asia				
Japan	2,425	5,211	6,180	6,430
Korea	725	649	600	700
Syria	50	28	37	55
Turkey	834	1,389	2,827	3,445
Total	4,034	7,277	9,644	10,630
South America				
Argentina	5,375	3,514	7,395	
Chile	1,149	1,539	1,768	
Total	6,524	5,053	9,163	
Africa				
Un. of So. Africa 2/	45	80	94	
Oceania				
Australia	2,907	2,179	2,632	
New Zealand	444	585	687	
Total	3,351	2,764	3,319	
Total Specified Countries	113,247	120,063	134,134	

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Deciduous Fruit Board exports and local sales used.

PLUMS AND PRUNES, FRESH: Production in specified countries, average 1951-55, annual 1956-58

Continent and country	Average 1951-55	1956	1957	1958 1/
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
North America				
Canada	19,410	13,350	14,150	15,325
Mexico 2/	6,711	8,064	8,267	8,300
United States	556,980	688,900	573,000	360,100
Plums	84,260	104,900	88,300	70,200
Prunes 3/	472,720	584,000	484,700	289,900
Total	583,101	710,314	595,417	383,725
Europe				
Austria	68,303	63,829	54,880	77,140
Belgium-Luxembourg	52,222	58,069	4/ 5,512	4/ 13,228
France	146,460	117,682	91,579	64,705
Germany, West	446,386	354,700	153,123	369,396
Greece	12,935	14,958	15,146	11,003
Italy	108,393	91,400	93,244	87,000
Netherlands	27,050	12,125	2,646	16,500
Norway	12,170	18,408	10,582	13,669
Spain	53,782	63,933	66,138	63,400
Sweden	16,093	28,329	16,094	13,228
Switzerland	37,258	33,069	22,000	38,600
United Kingdom	120,517	135,856	51,808	81,570
Yugoslavia	823,313	198,414	648,200	606,265
Total	1,924,882	1,190,772	1,230,952	1,455,704
Asia				
Japan	51,964	43,794	53,208	46,297
Syria	1,411	882	1,102	1,323
Turkey	62,144	86,168	83,775	89,286
Total	115,519	130,844	138,085	136,906
South America				
Argentina	37,037	46,407	51,477	
Chile	17,048	19,621	21,054	
Total	54,085	66,028	72,531	
Africa				
Un. of So. Africa 5/	3,999	2,821	4,040	
Oceania				
Australia	22,032	19,546	19,000	
New Zealand	2,374	3,822	3,885	
Total	24,406	23,368	22,885	
Total Specified Countries	2,705,992	2,124,147	2,063,910	

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Does not include wild plums which are 85 percent of total production. 3/ Includes California dried prunes converted to fresh basis at the ratio of 2½ pounds fresh fruit to 1 pound dried. 4/ Belgium only. 5/ Deciduous Fruit Board exports and local sales used.

WORLD 1958 COMMERCIAL DRIED FIG PACK LARGER

Commercial dried fig production in 1958 for the 8 principal producing countries is estimated at 171,500 short tons, or about 5 percent more than the 163,800-ton world pack the preceding year.

In 1957, and also in 1958, world production of dried figs was below the average of 188,720 tons attained during the 5-year period, 1951-55. Tonnages of figs dried in 1958 by Algeria, Greece, Italy, Portugal and the United States were all below average. The Turkish pack, on the other hand, at an estimated 35,000 short tons, was up approximately 12 percent. Though slightly larger than the 1957 pack of 22,700 tons (smallest since 1936), U.S. production of dried figs during 1958 amounted to only 23,300 tons and was still 12 percent less than the 1951-55 five-year average.

FIGS, DRIED: Estimated commercial production in specified countries, average 1951-55, annual 1954-58

Country	Average 1951-55	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Algeria........	31,900	37,000	22,500	27,000	26,000	25,000
Argentina......	1,140	1,400	1,700	1,400	1,400	1,700
Greece.........	27,800	30,000	28,000	28,000	24,500	24,000
Italy..........	53,400	51,000	36,000	48,000	45,000	49,000
Portugal 1/....	13,400	14,000	13,200	12,900	10,100	10,200
Syria-Lebanon..	3,300	3,500	2,200	3,100	3,100	2/
Turkey.........	31,200	33,000	31,000	42,000	31,000	35,000
Total foreign	162,140	169,900	134,600	162,400	141,100	148,200
United States..	26,580	25,600	25,400	24,800	22,700	23,300
Grand Total..	188,720	195,500	160,000	187,200	163,800	171,500

1/ Figs from Algarve area only - Torres Novas production, mostly inedible, excluded. 2/ 1951-55 average used for foreign total.

Italy: Commercial 1958 dried fig production in Italy is estimated at 49,000 short tons, or 4,000 tons more than for 1957. The 1958 pack, however, was still about 8 percent less than the 1951-55 average. White Italian figs are most important in the production of dried fruit, with about 60 percent of their total annually distilled for alcohol to fortify wines, 20 percent utilized in the domestic market, and the balance exported. For the season ending August 31, 1958, dried fig exports declined to 3,482 tons from the 4,777 tons exported a year earlier. In 1956-57, dried fig exports to the United States totaled 525 tons; for 1957-58 they were 392 tons.

As of mid-January 1959, about 460 tons had been shipped to the United States. During December of 1958, dried white figs, f.o.b., Italian border, were quoted at 9.2 cents per pound. The wholesale price for edible packaged figs in January of 1959 was about one-third less than the price for comparable fruit a year earlier.

Turkey: Production of Turkish dried figs during 1958 is estimated at 35,000 tons, or about 12 percent more than the 31,000-ton pack of the preceding year. Exports for 1957-58 totaled 23,000 short tons; for 1958-59, they are forecast at 26,000 tons. Industrial figs comprise from 20 to 22 percent of the new crop. Fig exports according to type follow:

	1957-58 Short tons	1958-59 forecast Short tons
Figs, edible	12,500	13,000
Industrial figs	7,600	7,500
Fig paste	2,900	5,500
Total	23,000	26,000

West Germany, the United Kingdom, Israel and France are the leading importers of Turkish edible figs. In 1957-58, 1,144 tons out of a total of 2,856 tons of fig paste were exported to the United States. Turkish fig paste prices for 1958-59 are slightly higher than those prevailing during the previous marketing season.

Greece: The 1958 Greek dried fig production of 24,000 tons was reported to be of good quality with fewer low-grade figs than normal. Though slightly smaller than the 1957 pack, the new production was nearly 14 percent below the 27,800-ton average during 1951-55. As of mid-January, 87 percent of the exportable grades had been marketed abroad. Total exports for 1958-59 are forecast as 16,500 tons, compared to the 13,800 tons exported in 1957-58. West Germany, Austria, and the United States are the leading Greek fig importers. 1958-crop Greek fig prices were generally higher than those for the 1957 production with late September prices for U. S. export grade dried figs ranging between 12¼ and 13½ cents per pound, c. & f. New York. These reached a high of 14 cents but then declined.

Portugal: At 10,200 tons, the 1958 Portuguese dried fig pack was approximately the same size as the previous year's production (10,100 tons). The 1958 Portuguese pack is expected to be marketed in the following forms:

	1957-58 Short tons	1958-59 forecast Short tons
Fig paste for export	2,500	4,000
Edible figs for export	4,200	3,000
Edible figs for domestic use	2,300	1,700
Industrial figs	1,100	1,500
Total	10,100	10,200

Fig paste prices have been materially higher in 1958-59 than they were a year earlier. The United States is the principal customer for Portuguese fig paste.

FIGS, DRIED: Imports into the United States by country of origin, annual 1954-58, year beginning Sept. 1

Type and country	1954	1955	1956	1957	1/ 1958
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Figs, dried					
Italy	227	174	280	181	166
Greece	2,057	1,527	1,592	1,353	1,939
Turkey	173	203	201	70	29
Spain	1	44	50	0	0
Portugal	853	369	585	505	42
Total	3,311	2,317	2,708	2,109	2,176
Fig paste					
Turkey	4,300	1,336	3,134	1,172	0
Portugal	207	3,349	1,586	2,078	99
Others	0	0	0	0	0
Total	4,507	4,685	4,720	3,250	99
Figs, prepared or preserved					
Italy	173	233	318	277	224
Greece	107	90	2/	0	0
Total	280	323	318	277	224
Grand total	8,098	7,325	7,746	5,636	2,499

1/ 2 months only, September 1958 through October 1958. 2/ Less than one-half ton.

RECORD WORLD CORN CROP IN 1958 CONFIRMED

The early outlook for a record world corn crop in 1958 has been confirmed by latest information available to the Foreign Agricultural Service. Present estimates place world production at 7,250 million bushels, 10 percent above the previous record in 1956 and 1957. Totals for both those years are now estimated at 6,575 million bushels. The current estimate of the 1958 crop is 150 million bushels more than the first forecast. (See Foreign Crops and Markets World Summaries, November 1958). The largest increases since the first forecast are for the Soviet Union and South America. Lesser revisions for Turkey and the United States also contributed to the increase.

CORN: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, year of harvest, average 1950-54, annual 1956-58 1/

Continent and country	Acreage 2/				Yield per acre 3/				Production			
	Average 1950-54	1956	1957	1958 4/	Average 1950-54	1956	1957	1958 4/	Average 1950-54	1956	1957	1958 4/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
North America:												
Canada	348	509	515	499	53.4	54.6	57.6	60.0	18,590	27,814	29,613	29,892
El Salvador	626	410	408	--	14.0	18.0	17.2	--	8,780	7,400	7,000	--
Guatemala	1,357	1,450	1,564	1,597	12.7	13.1	11.3	11.9	17,246	19,020	17,750	19,000
Honduras	719	804	838	865	11.6	11.7	11.6	12.1	8,325	9,370	9,700	10,430
Mexico	11,417	13,490	13,590	13,590	12.4	12.8	11.9	14.3	141,390	172,500	161,400	195,000
Nicaragua	277	443	502	--	14.4	12.1	8.6	--	3,976	5,370	4,330	--
United States	80,826	75,634	72,616	73,470	38.5	45.7	47.1	51.7	3,112,091	3,455,283	3,422,331	3,799,844
Cuba	415	452	398	346	16.0	15.7	16.3	16.5	6,640	7,100	6,500	5,700
Estimated total 5/	96,900	94,170	91,400	92,250	34.4	39.4	40.2	44.3	3,330,000	3,718,000	3,672,000	4,086,000
Europe:												
Austria	156	127	122	121	34.8	44.6	48.2	50.4	5,426	5,670	5,880	6,100
France	894	1,614	1,344	1,458	29.5	42.4	40.8	43.9	26,394	68,410	54,780	63,960
Greece	632	574	534	492	15.4	16.4	19.7	18.0	9,754	9,400	10,510	8,850
Italy	3,316	3,350	3,360	3,200	33.8	40.1	40.9	44.4	112,232	134,270	137,530	142,000
Portugal	1,192	1,204	1,194	1,195	14.1	14.7	14.1	12.5	16,752	17,670	16,810	14,980
Spain	991	911	--	--	27.2	30.8	--	--	26,980	28,100	27,800	28,600
Estimated total West Europe 5/	7,230	7,810	7,480	7,430	27.7	33.9	34.1	35.7	200,000	265,000	255,000	265,000
Albania	250	--	--	--	20.4	--	--	--	5,100	--	--	--
Bulgaria	1,780	1,955	1,853	--	15.4	17.0	25.6	--	27,500	32,200	47,400	--
Czechoslovakia	350	450	415	--	34.9	34.9	42.2	--	12,200	15,700	17,500	18,500
Hungary	2,830	2,870	3,330	--	30.5	30.8	35.4	--	86,200	88,500	118,000	--
Rumania	7,350	8,825	9,145	--	17.0	15.9	21.5	--	125,000	140,000	197,000	--
Yugoslavia	5,950	6,350	6,400	5,906	21.8	20.9	34.8	26.3	130,000	132,670	222,800	155,500
Estimated total East Europe 5/	18,550	20,980	21,680	21,470	21.0	20.3	28.6	23.8	390,000	425,000	620,000	500,000
Estimated total all Europe 5/	25,780	28,790	29,160	28,900	22.9	24.0	30.0	26.5	590,000	690,000	875,000	765,000
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia) 6/	10,400	23,000	15,000	20,000	18.3	21.7	20.0	26.2	190,000	500,000	300,000	525,000
Asia:												
Turkey	1,581	1,782	1,752	1,678	19.9	18.9	16.9	20.6	31,402	33,740	29,530	34,650
China	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	410,000	--	--	--
India	8,745	9,197	9,762	--	11.4	13.1	12.6	--	99,892	120,360	122,560	125,000
Pakistan	1,013	1,060	1,084	1,100	15.8	17.1	16.5	16.4	16,016	18,160	17,880	18,000
Indonesia	5,504	5,515	5,182	5,436	16.8	14.0	13.7	14.7	92,200	77,350	70,850	80,000
Japan 7/	107	123	119	125	23.3	26.6	32.1	31.5	2,488	3,268	3,819	3,937
Philippines	2,764	4,415	4,187	--	10.3	8.0	8.0	--	28,384	35,250	33,330	37,750
Estimated total 5/	42,790	45,260	45,330	45,200	16.9	16.5	15.8	18.8	725,000	745,000	715,000	850,000

Africa:												
Belgian Congo & Ruanda Urundi	1,097	1,179	1,196	1,186	13.5	15.4	15.6	15.4	14,768	18,100	18,700	18,300
Kenya 8/	156	166	267	--	27.8	30.7	26.2	--	4,334	5,100	7,000	--
Egypt	1,819	1,905	1,836	2,023	33.9	34.1	32.1	30.4	61,670	65,050	58,860	61,410
Morocco 9/	1,236	1,169	1,119	1,236	7.7	8.8	7.1	7.2	9,536	10,310	7,900	8,900
French West Africa	1,552	--	--	--	10.1	--	--	--	15,658	--	--	--
Madagascar	225	--	--	--	13.3	--	--	--	3,000	--	--	--
Angola	1,300	1,480	1,480	1,480	8.2	8.8	8.8	6.8	10,670	13,000	13,000	10,000
Rhodesia and Nyasaland	--	3,300	3,000	--	--	14.5	14.7	--	--	48,000	44,000	--
Union of South Africa	7,911	--	--	--	14.6	--	--	--	115,732	151,090	131,000	--
Estimated total 5/	23,810	26,740	26,830	27,540	15.1	16.1	15.1	15.3	360,000	430,000	405,000	420,000
South America:												
Argentina	4,833	4,838	6,400	--	24.8	22.0	34.4	--	120,098	106,210	220,000	240,000
Brazil	12,700	15,060	14,800	--	19.4	19.9	19.9	--	247,000	300,000	295,000	--
Chile	135	142	158	161	26.2	27.7	29.5	27.0	3,542	3,940	4,665	4,350
Colombia	1,730	1,673	1,395	--	17.1	18.6	21.4	--	29,567	31,100	29,800	--
Peru	636	580	581	556	19.2	18.0	18.3	19.1	12,186	10,440	10,640	10,630
Uruguay	643	819	881	--	10.7	8.1	12.3	--	6,902	6,620	10,870	--
Venezuela	700	709	700	639	18.4	19.5	19.3	--	12,850	13,800	13,500	--
Estimated total 5/	22,310	24,760	25,900	26.030	19.9	19.6	23.2	23.1	445,000	485,000	600,000	600,000
Oceania:												
Australia	173	182	185	150	26.9	30.2	30.3	31.3	4,654	5,500	5,600	4,700
New Zealand	5	6	--	--	62.0	52.5	--	--	310	315	--	--
Estimated total 5/	180	190	190	160	27.8	31.6	31.6	31.3	5,000	6,000	6,000	5,000
Estimated world total 5/	222,170	242,910	233,810	240,080	25.4	27.0	28.1	30.2	5,645,000	6,575,000	6,575,000	7,250,000

1/ Years shown refer to years of harvest in the Northern Hemisphere. Harvests of Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere which follow; thus the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere in 1958 is combined with preliminary forecasts for the Southern Hemisphere harvest which begins early in 1959. 2/ Figures refer to harvested area as far as possible. 3/ Yield per acre calculated from acreage and production data shown. 4/ Revised estimates for Northern Hemisphere countries; for the Southern Hemisphere, revised preliminary forecasts. 5/ Estimated totals, which in the case of production are rounded to millions, include allowances for any missing data for countries shown and for other producing countries not shown. 6/ Soviet corn area shown is reported as area harvested for grain only, whereas reported production presumably includes also grain equivalent from some of the acreage harvested for silage. 7/ Dried corn only. Previous published series included some immature corn. 8/ Production on European holdings only. Allowances for native cultivation, not shown, are included in estimated total for Africa. 9/ Excludes data for areas formerly known as Spanish Morocco and Tangier.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign government, other foreign source material, reports of United States Agricultural Attaches abroad, results of office research and related information.

The record crop of 3,800 million bushels in the United States accounts for more than half the world production of corn. The Soviet Union now appears to be the second largest producer and Mainland China the third largest. Those three countries, together produce about two-thirds of the world total.

Corn production in North America is estimated at 4,086 million bushels, about 300 million bushels more than this continent's previous record in 1948. The latest estimate places the U.S. crop for all purposes at 3,800 million bushels, which is 93 percent of the total for North America. The record U.S. harvest is due to unprecedented yields, the average of 51.7 bushels per acre comparing with the previous record of 47.1 bushels in 1957. Acreage was low though slightly above the very small acreage of 1957. A record crop was also reported for Mexico. The estimate of 195 million bushels there is about 20 percent more than in 1957.

Europe's corn production was sharply below the record 1957 crop mainly because of less favorable growing conditions in the Danube Basin countries. The largest single reduction was reported for Yugoslavia where a crop of 155 million bushels was 30 percent below the 1957 bumper crop. Conditions were also unfavorable in Bulgaria, Rumania, and Hungary.

The Soviet Union's corn acreage increased in 1958. Acreage for grain, including immature ears used as silage, increased from about 15 million acres in 1957 to 20 million in 1958. In addition, about 29 million acres of corn were harvested as green silage and fodder. Unlike 1957, yields were good and production of grain, including immature ears converted to dry equivalent is now unofficially estimated at 525 million bushels, a new record.

Corn production in Asia is estimated at 850 million bushels, 135 million more than in 1957. Production was up in all important producing areas, but the bulk of the increase is in Mainland China's estimate. Moderate increases are reported for India, Indonesia, Turkey, and the Philippines.

Africa's corn crop is expected to be larger than the 1957 harvest, mainly because of good prospects in the Union of South Africa. That leading producer, accounts for about a third of Africa's total. Prospects point to a well above average outturn. Harvesting begins in April.

The harvest in South America also begins in April and the outlook is for an outturn equalling the large 1957 production. Prospects are best in Argentina, where a good crop is forecast.

WORLD COCOA BEAN SUPPLY POSITION IMPROVED

The second review of the world cocoa situation indicates production of cocoa beans for the 1958-59 season at 1,925 million pounds. This is 10 percent above the 1957-58 crop and only 5 percent below the record 1956-57 crop of 2,018 million pounds. In most major production areas weather conditions have been favorable as the season progressed and the production outlook has improved.

North America: Production in this area during 1958-59 is expected to be about 5 million pounds greater than in 1957-58. The Costa Rican 1958-59 main crop is about equal to that of last year, however, an increase is expected for the spring crop.

A good crop is expected in the Dominican Republic, but total output will probably be smaller than the record crops of the past 2 years.

Weather conditions during the winter months in Mexico are reported to have been satisfactory and the spring crop is expected to be good. Fungus growth resulting from high humidity and rainfall may retard the crop slightly.

Heavy rains in Jamaica at the beginning of October delayed the crop.

In Dominica the new crop is late but is expected to be good.

St. Lucia's first crop will probably be short.

From Trinidad there are reports of widespread but not severe attacks of Ceratostomella.

South America: Production is estimated at 517 million pounds, or 28 million above the October estimate. In Brazil the main crop, now being harvested, seems to be a good one because of excellent weather. The Brazilian production figure includes an estimate for the Temporaro crop, marketing of which does not commence until May. This crop in the past several years has been larger than the main crop and over the years have varied considerably in size due primarily to rainfall fluctuations during the growing season. The current estimate envisions a main crop of 172 million pounds and a 1959 Temporaro crop of 193 million pounds.

Colombian production is not expected to increase from the previous year's level. There are reports that Colombia is endeavoring to become self-sufficient in cacao production. However, only limited progress appears to have been made thus far in achieving this goal.

Ecuador's crop prospects for the current year are reported excellent.

Venezuelan production will probably increase during the next few years, because of a program to aid producers with credit, technical assistance, and improved planting material.

Peruvian production during 1958-59 is estimated to have increased slightly over the past year's crop. Reportedly there is much interest in expanding production. The Agricultural Bank is granting better credit facilities and more emphasis is being placed on technical assistance.

Africa: The 1958-59 African crop is now estimated at 1,193 million pounds. This is 18 percent above last season but still below the 1956-57 level. Weather, which had reduced the 1957-58 crop, was more favorable for the current crop. The increased use of chemical sprays also has contributed to this season's increase.

Production in Ghana is now estimated at 530 million pounds. Purchases during the early weeks of the season were disappointing and led to speculation that the crop might be poor. However, the crop was late and peak harvesting did not begin until mid-December. As of 22 January, 460 million pounds has been purchased, with about 7 weeks of marketing for the main crop remaining.

Nigerian production during the current year is now estimated at 310 million pounds. This is 20 percent above the Foreign Agricultural Service October estimate and if this level is attained, it would surpass the record 1956-57 crop of 303 million pounds.

The Ivory Coast's output during 1958-59 will be reduced because of drought. Estimated production has now been revised downward to 115 million pounds.

In the Cameroun, dry weather is also expected to reduce the total output, and production is now being estimated at 135 million pounds.

Small decreases in production are also anticipated for Fernando Po and Rio Muni and Sao Thome and Principe.

In Liberia the future of cocoa does not look promising. Exports since 1953 and through 1957, have never exceeded 1.4 million pounds. Reports now state that cocoa is being replaced by rubber and coffee.

COCOA BEANS: Production in principal producing countries, averages 1935/36-1939/40, 1950/51-1954/55, annual 1956-57, 1957-58, 1958-59 1/

Continent and country	Average 1935/36-1939/40 2/	Average 1950/51-1954/55	1956-57	1957-58	1958-59
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
North America:					
Costa Rica	14,356	14,289	3/ 19,700	3/ 19,000	3/ 20,000
Cuba	7,000	6,092	5,600	5,100	6,000
Dominican Republic	54,049	73,179	78,700	78,000	75,000
Grenada	8,536	6,684	4,000	4,000	5,000
Haiti	3,349	4,251	3,500	4,000	4,000
Jamaica	4,750	4,822	6,500	7,000	7,500
Mexico	2,500	22,455	31,000	30,000	33,000
Panama	10,418	3,129	3,500	4,500	4,500
Trinidad and Tobago	31,635	18,200	17,000	19,000	20,000
Other North America 4/	4,059	4,413	4,500	5,000	5,300
Total North America 4/	140,652	157,514	174,000	175,600	180,300
South America:					
Bolivia	5/	5/	6,500	6,500	6,500
Brazil	263,980	274,703	367,860	380,000	365,000
Colombia	25,000	31,790	30,000	31,000	31,000
Ecuador	42,373	59,245	68,000	68,000	70,000
Peru	5/	5/	3,600	4,000	4,500
Venezuela	36,934	38,008	39,600	40,000	40,000
Total South America	368,287	403,746	515,560	529,500	517,000
Africa:					
Belgian Congo	2,809	5,288	10,000	10,600	11,000
Fernando Po and Rio Muni	25,000	37,568	49,600	50,500	46,300
Cameroun	58,350	123,190	129,200	147,700	135,000
French Equatorial Africa	1,871	6/	6,500	7,000	7,000
French West Africa 7/	109,937	128,055	170,000	99,200	115,000
Ghana 8/	609,363	524,897	589,850	474,300	530,000
Liberia	9/	9/	1,800	2,000	2,000
Nigeria 10/	216,318	234,821	303,000	180,000	310,000
Sao Thome and Principe	22,496	17,379	20,000	20,000	19,000
Sierra Leone	9/	9/	5,400	5,600	5,800
Togo	9/	9/	14,000	10,000	10,000
Other Africa 11/	9/ 8,154	18,840	2,000	2,000	2,000
Total Africa	1,054,298	1,090,038	1,301,350	1,008,900	1,193,100
Asia and Oceania:					
Ceylon	7,931	5,965	6,500	7,000	7,000
Indonesia	3,310	1,928	3,000	3,000	2,600
New Guinea	-	-	4,760	7,500	8,000
New Hebrides	3,916	1,742	2,000	2,000	2,500
Philippines	-	-	3,500	4,000	4,500
Western Samoa	2,326	6,203	7,000	9,000	10,000
Total Asia and Oceania	17,483	15,838	26,760	32,500	34,600
World total	1,580,720	1,667,136	2,017,670	1,746,500	1,925,000

1/ Production for most countries is on an October 1 to September 30 year except for Brazil prior to 1956-57, which is on a May 1 to April 30 basis. 2/ Export data have been used for all countries with the exception of Mexico, Cuba and Colombia. 3/ Some cocoa beans produced in Costa Rica move across the border for marketing in Nicaragua. 4/ Includes Dominica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Nicaragua, St. Lucia and St. Vincent. 5/ Not available. 6/ Included in Cameroun. 7/ Mostly Ivory Coast. 8/ Formerly Gold Coast and British Togoland. 9/ Prior to 1956-57 French Togoland, Liberia and Sierra Leone are included in other Africa. 10/ Includes British Cameroons. 11/ Includes Angola and Madagascar.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Official publications of foreign governments. Other foreign source material, reports of Agricultural Attaches and other U. S. representatives abroad, and other information.

Asia: Total production in Asia is now estimated at 34.6 million pounds, slightly less than the October estimate, and about 2 million pounds greater than in 1957-58.

In Indonesia, production is expected to decline. There seems to be little interest in improving quantity or quality, or in increasing plantings. The 1958-59 production is now estimated at 2.6 million pounds.

In the other countries of this area, the FAS estimate of production has not changed since October.

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MODERATE SUGAR STOCKS HELD BY FREE WORLD EXPORTERS AT BEGINNING OF SEASON

Aggregate stocks of sugar held by 14 exporting members of the International Sugar Agreement were somewhat larger at the beginning of the current sugar-making season than a year earlier. They were smaller, however, than at the beginning of the 1955-56 and 1956-57 campaigns.

Carryover stocks have been larger in several prior years for most of the countries shown in the accompanying table, and especially so for Cuba, India and Taiwan. On the other hand, stocks in Brazil are notable for their upward trend.

Reliable stock data are not currently available for all countries, nor for all years. A reasonably comparable series from 1950 to date is presented for a limited number of countries outside the Iron Curtain. The aim has been to include primarily those countries for which an export quota is provided under the current International Sugar Agreement. Data for the United States and its territories are regularly reported elsewhere and therefore omitted in this summary. It is not now feasible to include stocks for the United Kingdom and major countries in the British Commonwealth Agreement. The countries included in the table in 1956 and 1957 supplied over 60 percent of total Free World exports of sugar outside of movements under the United States and the British Commonwealth Sugar Acts.

Figures may be revised as additional analyses are made, or as possible official revisions in basic data are made by individual countries. Data for the last 2 seasons in particular should be considered as preliminary.

Stocks of sugar, beginning of new grind, in selected countries,
seasons 1950-51 to 1958-59

Country	Date 1/	Sugar-making season								
		1950-1951	1951-1952	1952-1953	1953-1954	1954-1955	1955-1956	1956-1957	1957-1958 2/	1958-1959 2/
		- - - - 1,000 short tons, raw value - - - -								
Indonesia..	May 1	---	---	---	0	38	40	39	29	59
Brazil.....	June 1	152	164	188	291	264	266	198	448	431
Belgium....	October 1	51	29	55	38	39	21	24	15	24
Denmark....	October 1	7	8	14	18	74	37	50	39	72
France.....	October 1	51	63	126	54	256	225	103	78	88
Netherlands	October 1	49	98	27	28	22	29	38	54	63
Philippines	October 1	35	36	30	46	85	173	148	82	112
Dominican Republic.	November 1	11	30	38	40	147	103	158	20	93
India......	November 1	105	219	604	235	69	689	663	550	404
Taiwan.....	November 1	3/66	3/36	66	76	53	157	176	116	83
Cuba.......	January 1	327	322	2,386	1,640	2,142	1,786	703	751	4/650
Mexico.....	January 1	47	46	83	134	159	176	50	100	182
Haiti......	January 1	1	1	2	3	1	5	3	1	1
Peru.......	January 1	70	108	98	112	117	87	143	90	170
Total.		972	1,160	3,717	2,715	3,466	3,794	2,496	2,373	2,432

1/ All stock carryover dates, except for January 1, apply to the first year mentioned at the head of each column. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Probably October 1. 4/ Estimated.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source materials, reports of U. S. Agricultural Attaches and Foreign Service Officers, results of office research and related information.

STONE FRUITS--(Continued from Page 4)

Europe was largely responsible for the overall increase with a total crop 31 percent above 1957 and 4 percent above average. All European countries reported production gains, with most up sharply over last year. Reductions were reported only in France, Greece, Spain, and Yugoslavia. Asian countries also boosted production from last year and totals are substantially above average.

Peaches: Northern Hemisphere peach production, bolstered by a 14 percent gain in North America, continued its upward trend. Despite 8 percent smaller crops in Europe, total 1958 production was 5 percent above 1957 and 24 percent over average.

Crops in France, Spain, and Yugoslavia were down slightly. All other areas reported production at 1957 levels or higher.

Plums and Prunes: There were significant reductions in plum and prune production in France, down 29 percent, and Greece, 27 percent. There were smaller decreases in Italy, Spain, and Sweden. However, with most other countries reporting larger crops and West Germany and the Netherlands up significantly, losses were offset and total European production was 18 percent above 1957 although still below average.

North American production, with sharply reduced crops in the United States, dropped 36 percent. This about offset European gains, and Northern Hemisphere production totaled almost 2 million tons, just one percent above 1957.

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The Commodity Summaries in this monthly supplementary issue of Foreign Crops and Markets are part of a series of reports on World Crop and Livestock Production and Trade which are released according to a schedule published at the beginning of each calendar year.

The country data are prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments; reports of Agricultural Attaches and other U. S. representatives abroad; results of office research and other information. The Summaries of Production have been approved by the Foreign Agricultural Service Committee on Foreign Crops and Livestock Statistics.

WORLD FLAXSEED PRODUCTION UP SUBSTANTIALLY IN 1958

World production of flaxseed in 1958 is now estimated at about 133 million bushels, 11 percent above the small outturn of 1957 and the 1950-54 average. Production estimates for 1956, 1957 and 1958 have been revised downward about 5 percent from estimates published in November 1958 because indications now are that production in the Soviet Union probably was not so large as had been expected.

The 13-million-bushel production increase in 1958 from 1957 stems principally from substantial expansion in the United States and Canada. India's crop was down almost one-third, and Argentina's was down a million bushels from the year before.

For the second half of the U.S. marketing year ending June 30, 1959, availabilities for export and carryout of flaxseed and linseed oil as of January 1, 1959 in the 3 major exporting countries--Canada, Argentina and the United States--are estimated at the equivalent of about 50 million bushels of flaxseed, or about 13 million bushels more than a year earlier. Of the total, 28 million bushels are estimated to be in Canada and Argentina, and 22 million in the United States.

Flaxseed production in North America in 1958 was up almost 40 percent from the previous year. Canada's harvest increased one-fifth and was the third largest of record, exceeded only by the record 34-million-bushel crop of 1956 and the 26-million-bushel crop of 1912. Acreage was down one-fourth, primarily because of low yields in 1957. However, production turned out much better than was expected, because mid-July rains saved the crop in most areas and damage from aster yellows and hail was much less than in the previous season.

With a carryover of 5.6 million bushels Canada's total supply of 28.8 million bushels for the current marketing year is the second largest of record. With export and carryout availabilities estimated at about 21.3 million bushels, after allowing 7.5 million for domestic use, and with 5.5 million bushels exported by the end of December, availabilities as of January 1, for export and carryout were about 15.8 million bushels.

U.S. flaxseed production increased more than one-half from the previous year's short crop. Following the low average yields per acre of 1957, plantings in 1958 declined one-fourth. Harvested acreage was down one-fifth. However, under excellent-to-ideal growing conditions, the yield per harvested acre averaged 10.3 bushels, the second highest since 1906 and nearly double the yield of 1957.

With flaxseed and linseed oil stocks in the United States at the beginning of the marketing year at about 15 million bushels, flaxseed equivalent basis, 9 million less than the previous year, total supplies are estimated at 54 million bushels. Allowing 27 million bushels for domestic use would leave about 27 million bushels available for export and carryover. Almost 5 million bushels had been exported by the end of December, leaving 22 million bushels available for export and for carryout as of January 1, 1959.

FLAXSEED: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries and the world, averages 1935-39 and 1950-54, annual 1956-58 1/

Continent and country	Harvested acreage					Yield per acre					Production				
	Average		1956	1957	1958 2/	Average		1956	1957	1958 2/	Average		1956	1957	1958 2/
	1935-39	1950-54				1935-39	1950-54				1935-39	1950-54			
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
North America:															
Canada	307	1,010	3,041	3,486	2,665	5.1	9.5	11.3	5.5	8.7	1,508	9,654	34,463	19,179	23,166
Mexico	16	118	48	45	32	6.9	15.8	12.1	11.7	13.9	111	1,872	576	521	433
United States	1,451	4,306	5,548	4,899	3,853	7.4	8.7	8.7	5.3	10.3	10,991	36,809	48,009	25,919	39,543
Total	1,774	5,434	8,637	8,430	6,550						12,610	48,335	83,048	45,619	63,142
South America:															
Argentina	6,077	1,656	2,661	2,657	3/2,650	9.8	10.9	9.2	9.3	8.9	59,571	17,888	24,408	24,802	23,621
Brazil	---	81	119	---	---	---	12.0	9.6	---	---	---	970	1,143	984	1,180
Chile 4/	5/ 5	16	19	16	15	5/ 8.2	12.4	12.3	11.9	12.1	5/ 37	195	236	186	186
Uruguay	407	6/ 382	6/ 334	336	6/ 320	9.6	9.9	8.5	8.6	8.0	3,894	3,682	2,852	2,891	2,550
Estimated total 7/	6,570	2,135	3,135	3,120	3,095						64,032	22,735	28,640	28,865	27,540
Europe:															
Belgium-Luxembourg 4/	75	77	84	64	53	8.9	8.6	9.7	9.9	10.7	664	661	817	632	562
Denmark	---	17	3	4	4	---	14.0	19.4	17.6	---	---	235	51	75	---
Finland 4/	8/ 9	9/ 5	---	---	---	7.5	9/10.0	---	---	---	36	9/ 52	---	---	---
France 4/	92	121	198	167	160	5.0	5.7	11.4	10.7	9.8	464	685	10/2,255	10/1,775	10/ 1,575
Germany, West 4/	9/ 45	14	7	7	---	9/10.6	12.2	10.2	10.6	---	9/ 476	173	67	79	---
Greece	---	6	7	5	---	7.9	7.7	4.5	6.0	---	79	51	33	27	---
Italy 4/	30	45	35	32	---	6.7	10.0	10.1	11.3	---	202	456	353	362	302
Netherlands 4/	42	70	79	56	40	13.0	12.1	13.3	14.3	13.1	546	850	1,049	799	518
Spain 4/	9/ 3	30	30	---	---	9/ 4.2	5.3	6.6	---	---	9/ 13	179	197	---	---
Sweden	---	45	4	4	5	---	15.6	37.5	35.4	31.9	---	722	10/ 157	10/ 157	10/ 157
United Kingdom	9/ 2	19	1	---	---	---	17.0	---	---	---	40	328	---	---	---
Estimated total West Europe 7/	315	455	450	370	335						2,555	4,410	4,995	4,115	3,500
Germany, East 4/	23	68	78	68	---	11.3	---	8.0	5.5	---	260	---	625	373	---
Hungary	28	37	10	6	6	9.5	7.0	10.1	10.7	---	283	260	102	67	---
Rumania	4/ 42	58	81	84	---	6.5	5.7	5.1	5.6	---	275	350	413	468	---
Estimated total East Europe 7/	325	600	645	655	650						2,745	4,630	4,705	4,255	4,255
Estimated total Europe 7/	640	1,055	1,095	1,025	985						5,300	9,040	9,700	8,370	7,755
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia) 4/	9/6,434	4,620	5,906	---	---	9/ 5.1	---	---	---	---	9/32,115	---	---	---	---

FLAXSEED (cont'd)

Africa:															
Algeria	---	10	2	---	---	---	6.5	7.5	---	---	---	66	17	---	---
Egypt 4/	7	9	21	11	---	12.4	14.8	15.5	17.5	---	87	127	322	197	---
Morocco	51	175	73	80	116	7.1	6.2	5.7	5.1	5.8	362	1,103	417	409	677
Estimated total 7/	65	365	305	300	340						500	2,870	2,840	2,715	2,975
Asia:															
Turkey (Europe and Asia) 4/ 6/	48	98	68	71	91	7.3	9.1	8.0	8.9	---	349	898	543	630	---
India 6/ 11/ 12/	4,098	3,511	3,735	4,156	3,318	4.7	4.2	4.4	3.7	3.3	19,352	14,824	16,560	15,360	10,840
Japan 4/ 6/	50	44	39	39	34	4.2	3.7	2.9	3.7	3.8	211	160	110	146	130
Pakistan 12/	---	72	76	78	75	---	6.8	7.4	7.7	7.4	---	455	560	600	560
Estimated total 7/	4,231	3,760	4,006	4,432	3,605						20,111	16,545	18,335	17,320	12,735
Oceania:															
Australia 13/	14/	31	90	97	55	---	7.4	8.2	3.5	9.8	14/	252	741	340	540
New Zealand	1	15	---	---	---	14.2	19.1	---	---	---	17	269	---	---	---
Estimated total 7/	1	46	91	98	55						17	521	750	350	550
Estimated world total 7/	19,715	17,415	23,175	22,665	19,695						134,685	120,045	163,310	119,240	132,695

1/ Harvests of the Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere which immediately follow; thus the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere countries in 1958 is combined with the Southern Hemisphere harvest which begins late in 1958 and ends early in 1959. Estimates do not include China where annual production probably varies from 1 to 2 million bushels. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Estimates based on planted area officially estimated at 3.2 million acres. 4/ Acreage includes area for fiber. 5/ 1935 only. 6/ Sown area. 7/ Includes estimates for the above countries for which data are not available and for minor producing countries. 8/ Flax and hemp. 9/ Average of less than 5 years. 10/ Includes seed from fiber flax. 11/ Officially reported figures plus Indian official estimates for unreported tracts for 1935-39 only. Estimates for unreported tracts for 1950-58 not available. 12/ Prior to 1945 figures for India include Pakistan. 13/ Flax grown for seed only. 14/ Less than 500.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source material, reports of U. S. Agricultural Attaches and other U. S. representatives abroad, and related information. Prewar estimates for countries having changed boundaries have been adjusted to conform to present boundaries.

Commercial stocks of flaxseed and linseed oil at the end of the season probably will remain near the relatively small total commercial stock of 12 million bushels on hand at the beginning of the year. Most of the remaining 10 million bushels probably will be delivered to the Commodity Credit Corporation.

Mexico's 1958 crop was down 17 percent from 1957 as a result of reduced acreage.

Flaxseed production in South America declined about 5 percent from the previous year's outturn. Plantings in Argentina were down 9 percent from the year before but were almost one-third larger than the 10 year (1948-57) average. The reduced acreage and prolonged drought in the northern part of the flaxseed zone resulted in an outturn one-million bushels less than in the previous year.

With a carryover equivalent to 5 million bushels of seed, total Argentine supply for calendar 1959 is 28.6 million bushels. An allowance of 4.4 million bushels for seed and for oil consumption leaves 24 million bushels for export and carryout this year. Roughly one-half of this volume may move out as oil during the January-June period.

Uruguay's 1958 flaxseed crop was down 12 percent from the year before, but Brazil's increased 20 percent. A relatively small surplus normally is available for export from Uruguay.

European production of flaxseed in 1958 is estimated at about 600,000 bushels less than in 1957, attributable largely to smaller crops in France and the Netherlands. The relatively small production in Africa was somewhat larger in 1958 with Morocco's crop up 200,000 bushels.

Production in Asia was down one-fourth largely because of the decline of 4.5 million bushels in India's crop, the result of reduced acreage and drought. Favorable growing conditions indicate that the 1959 crop now being harvested will be up substantially from last year. During 1952-57 India's exports, virtually all as oil, averaged the equivalent of 3 million bushels of flaxseed. As India consumes linseed oil for edible purposes, exportable supplies depend to some extent on the supply of other edible oils.

The small flaxseed production in Oceania, virtually all in Australia, increased about 200,000 bushels in 1958.

WORLD COTTON PRODUCTION AT RECORD HIGH IN 1958-59

World cotton production in 1958-59 is estimated at a record high of 44.0 million bales (500 pounds gross weight). This is 0.5 million bales above the previous record world crop of 43.5 million bales in 1955-56, and is 2.3 million higher than in 1957-58.

In the United States, yield per acre is placed at a record high of 469 pounds for the 1958 crop, compared with 388 pounds in 1957 and the previous record of 417 pounds in 1955. Acreage harvested was the smallest since 1876, with 5.0 million allotted acres having been removed from production under the Soil Bank program. Cotton ginned prior to January 16, 1959, totaled 11.3 million running bales, or 98.6 percent of the total estimated crop.

Foreign Free World production is currently estimated at a record 17.3 million bales this season. This is 0.6 million bales above the previous record of 16.7 million in 1957-58, and 3.5 million above the 1950-54 average. Larger production of extra long staple cotton, mostly in Egypt and Sudan, accounts for the increase over last season. Indications are that total production of upland-type cotton in the foreign Free World will not vary greatly from last year. Production estimates for India and Pakistan, where most of the Asiatic-type short staple cotton is grown, are now lower than last year as a result of adverse weather.

Production of upland-type cotton in Mexico and Central American countries is at a record high level in 1958-59 as a result of increased acreage and generally favorable growing conditions, despite some local weather damage in Mexico. Production also is expected to reach record highs in Uganda, Iran, Colombia, and Tanganyika, and crops are larger than a year earlier in Turkey, Mozambique, and Spain. These increases are partly offset by smaller crops than last year in Argentina, Brazil (nothern area), Nigeria, Syria, and Iraq, and lower production of upland types in Egypt.

Cotton acreage and production statistics for Communist countries have been revised upward on the basis of additional information now available. Production in the Soviet Union, which is almost entirely on irrigated acreage, may total 7.0 million bales in 1958-59, which is equal to the record 1956-57 crop, and is slightly larger than last year. Reports indicate a record crop in Communist China, although there is some speculation concerning the amount of the increase above last year's record level of about 7.0 million bales. On the basis of revised statistics, Communist countries are now producing roughly one-third of the world's cotton, compared with one-fourth in the 1950-54 period.

Current indications are that foreign cotton production next season--1959-60--may decline somewhat, although it is too early to make a firm estimate. Early reports are that plantings may be smaller in Mexico, Central America, Egypt, and possibly other surplus producing countries. Several factors are influencing the prospective decline, including: slackened demand by importing countries and the pressure of larger supplies, accompanied by substantially lower prices of foreign cotton in import markets, especially in the case of extra long staple cotton; tightening of credits to producers in some exporting countries; and, expected larger supplies and lower prices of U.S. cotton in 1959-60. However, a number of foreign countries are likely to continue their plans for expanding cotton production for reasons which include meeting more of the raw cotton requirements of their domestic textile industry; increasing or maintaining foreign exchange earnings through cotton exports; efforts to carry out economic development programs already underway; and, inability or unwillingness to shift to alternative cash crops.

COTTON: Acreage and production in specified countries, averages 1935-39 and 1950-54, annual 1956-58 1/

Continent and country	Acreage					Production 3/				
	Average		1956	1957 2/	1958 2/	Average		1956	1957 2/	1958 2/
	1935-39	1950-54				1935-39	1950-54			
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
NORTH AMERICA:										
El Salvador	9	63	95	99	132	5	53	137	161	235
Guatemala	--	23	32	43	68	2	19	46	61	90
Mexico	725	1,936	2,095	2,250	2,495	334	1,333	1,790	2,085	2,275
Nicaragua	9	101	182	165	195	5	87	193	219	230
United States	27,788	22,861	15,615	13,558	11,858	13,149	14,093	13,310	10,964	11,581
British West Indies	20	17	9	11	9	5	4	3	5	4
Haiti	--	39	--	--	--	22	7	--	--	--
Total 4/	28,642	25,054	18,095	16,191	14,826	13,523	15,602	15,498	13,521	14,448
EUROPE:										
Bulgaria 5/	85	120	235	200	--	35	45	55	85	--
Greece	173	219	395	385	402	77	137	234	290	289
Italy	56	82	112	99	100	21	31	37	38	32
Rumania 5/	8	122	278	150	--	2	23	28	20	--
Spain	46	168	494	433	400	10	60	223	175	195
Yugoslavia	8	34	32	31	32	3	5	9	15	10
Total 4/	377	761	1,546	1,298	1,284	148	306	586	623	611
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)	5,087	5,885	5,100	5,170	5,150	3,430	5,700	7,000	6,850	7,000
ASIA:										
Aden	--	18	35	35	25	--	12	24	25	18
Cyprus	11	13	12	12	10	3	3	2	2	1
Iran	453	463	625	625	640	171	186	285	280	320
Iraq	53	97	144	160	139	11	27	36	65	--
Israel	--	1	14	12	14	--	1	14	18	24
Syria	85	405	673	638	645	28	231	426	492	430
Turkey	667	1,458	1,575	1,520	1,550	249	624	670	550	600
Afghanistan	--	87	196	175	--	49	55	85	60	--
Burma	428	365	354	297	335	97	91	75	55	65
China, Mainland	7,038	12,740	14,800	14,300	14,900	2,855	4,520	6,000	7,000	--
India	6/ 24,204	16,463	19,893	20,158	20,150	6/ 5,348	3,382	4,170	4,425	4,300
Korea 7/	564	316	285	190	175	198	77	77	39	34
Indonesia	27	10	6	10	10	9	3	1	3	2
Pakistan	6/	3,167	3,583	3,563	--	6/	1,320	1,317	1,370	1,300
Thailand	16	89	98	102	--	7	32	45	50	--
Total 4/	33,805	35,728	42,340	41,852	42,423	9,038	10,574	13,243	14,457	15,282

SOUTH AMERICA:										
Argentina	770	1,308	1,340	1,655	1,600	289	557	481	785	--
Brazil	5,562	4,680	4,300	3,700	4,000	1,956	1,655	1,300	1,330	1,250
Colombia	98	163	155	178	245	23	69	110	95	155
Ecuador	40	38	40	45	45	13	11	12	12	--
Paraguay	111	153	120	143	150	40	59	47	44	55
Peru	428	488	588	581	568	379	450	485	497	502
Venezuela	50	35	52	--	--	11	13	21	28	25
Total 4/	7,060	6,870	6,599	6,357	6,665	2,711	2,816	2,458	2,793	2,652
AFRICA AND OCEANIA:										
Sudan	439	614	764	728	889	248	383	617	225	616
Belgian Congo	874	863	850	840	840	172	222	239	205	--
Rhodesia-Nyasaland	86	81	30	24	--	12	13	6	8	8
Kenya	--	73	75	--	--	13	11	7	9	15
Tanganyika	--	209	300	325	--	50	55	111	140	144
Uganda	1,477	1,574	1,569	1,617	2,014	281	291	310	292	362
Egypt	1,821	1,832	1,715	1,888	1,977	1,893	1,705	1,492	1,861	2,030
Algeria	--	19	19	19	--	--	8	6	6	--
Morocco	1	9	15	17	17	8/	5	9	10	11
French Equatorial Africa	390	700	785	775	775	41	135	155	185	170
French West Africa	--	181	--	--	--	28	30	52	57	--
Mozambique	--	690	743	750	750	9/ 33	148	158	142	--
Nigeria	--	463	--	--	--	36	114	135	205	150
Angola	73	124	132	133	126	13	25	31	30	25
Union of South Africa	--	66	--	--	--	2	23	31	28	--
Australia	53	8	8	9	--	11	3	3	2	--
Total 4/	6,176	7,547	8,135	8,482	9,152	2,840	3,182	3,375	3,416	4,007
World total 4/	81,147	81,845	81,815	79,350	79,500	31,690	38,180	42,160	41,660	44,000
Foreign Free World 4/	41,140	40,101	45,787	45,972	47,242	12,219	13,794	15,767	16,741	17,334
Communist countries 4/	12,219	18,883	20,413	19,820	20,400	6,322	10,293	13,083	13,955	15,085

1/ Years refer to crop years beginning August 1, in which major portion of crop was harvested. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Production in bales of 478 pounds net prior to 1946 and 480 pounds thereafter. 4/ Includes estimates for minor-producing countries not listed above and countries for which statistics are not yet available. 5/ Figures for 1943 to date are not comparable with prewar figures because of boundary changes. 6/ Pakistan included with India. 7/ South Korea only after 1941. 8/ Less than 500. 9/ Exports.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source material, reports of U. S. agricultural attaches and Foreign Service officers, results of office research and related information.

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